

July 30, 1999

To the US FDA,

As a U.S. citizen, I am ~~naturally~~ ²³³⁴⁷⁹⁹⁻³ concerned with health standards. I wish to comment on the risks of viral transmission with xeno-transplants using pigs and other animals.

For the following reasons, I oppose any xenotransplant research.

1) Responsible health officials would ban all xenotransplants because of inter-species virus transmission.

2) There is no evidence that pigs are any safer than nonhuman primates. Pig viruses are just as dangerous as nonhuman primate viruses.

3) The U.S. should follow Europe's example. In January 1999, the Council of Europe, representing 40 European countries, recommended a world-wide ban on xenotransplants.

4) There are safer and more humane alternatives to xenotransplants, such as aggressively promoting preventive medicine and increasing human organ donation rates.

Sincerely,

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